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DOD Anecdotes and Quotes

Operational Energy Use:

Ms. Amanda Dory, DASD for Strategy in her QDR testimony to the HASC stated "that the Department of Defense intends to be the leader in energy responsibility."

"Unleash us from the tether of fuel," Lieutenant General James N. Mattis, Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, and from his Operation Iraqi Freedom experience as Commanding General, 1st Marine Division.

Vice Admiral Dennis McGinn, retired Deputy Chief of Naval Warfare Requirements and Programs, captured the national security dangers of our addiction to oil in 2009 testimony before the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee: "In 2008, we sent \$386 billion overseas to pay for oil – much of it going to nations that wish us harm. This is an unprecedented and unsustainable transfer of wealth to other nations. It puts us in the untenable position of funding both sides of the conflict and directly undermines our fight against terror."

"Despite a few programs to induce careful operator use of energy, the Task Force found that commanders generally are not incentivized to reduce fuel consumption...Many further improvements in operational procedures among all the Services and Defense Agencies appear possible." (2007 Defense Science Board Report, "More Fight-Less Fuel")

National Security:

Dependence on imported oil, particularly from the Middle East, has become the elephant in the foreign policy living room, an overriding strategic consideration composed of a multitude of issues. Taken in whole, the National Energy Policy does not offer a compelling solution to the growing danger of foreign oil dependence. ... Future military efforts to secure the oil supply pose tremendous challenges due to the number of potential crisis areas. Economic stagnation or catastrophe lurk close at hand, to be triggered by another embargo, collapse of the Saudi monarchy, or civil disorder in any of a dozen nations."

Saving Lives:

"Wald said the U.S. military's high rate of fuel use made it especially vulnerable in Afghanistan, which is essentially served by only two convoy routes -- routes that are routinely targeted for roadside bomb attacks."

"In fact, increased use of convoys to transport fuel and water -- which account for about 80 percent of the weight of everything the U.S. takes to war -- was a root



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cause of U.S. casualties, and there was no sign that the Pentagon intended to shift the strategy it used in Iraq," Retired U.S. Air Force General Charles Wald

General Facts:

"Now, the Pentagon isn't seeking these alternative fuels just to protect our environment; they are pursuing these homegrown energy sources to protect our national security ... Our military leaders recognize the security imperative of increasing the use of alternative fuels, decreasing energy use, and reducing our reliance on imported oil." (President Barack Obama, April 2010)

"It requires each of us ... to think about how could we be doing things better ... how could we be doing things smarter so that we are no longer tethered to the whims of what happens somewhere in the Middle East or with other major oil-producing nations." (Department of Defense, April 2010)

"Oil is the umbilical cord and lifeline of the crusader community." "Focus your operations on oil, especially in Iraq and the Gulf area, since this will cause them to die off." Al Qaeda Leader, Osama bin Laden.

"Our dependence on fuel adds significant cost and puts US soldiers and contractors at risk," said Dorothy Robyn, Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Installations and Environment. "Energy can be a matter of life and death and we have seen dramatically in Iraq and Afghanistan the cost of heavy reliance on fossil fuels."